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AN ORDINANCE

By Councilmember Michael Bond

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AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING AND IMPLEMENTING LOCAL PREFERENCE GUIDELINES FOR BUSINESSES AND SERVICE PROVIDERS WHO ARE LOCATED WITHIN THE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the economic stability and vitality of the City of Atlanta is a matter of compelling interest, and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta City Council has an interest in promoting economic prosperity for the City of Atlanta, and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta City Council desires to stimulate economic growth by attracting service providers and businesses to locate within the City of Atlanta's geographic boundaries, and

WHEREAS, the metropolitan Atlanta suburbs are experiencing strong economic growth and business development, and

WHEREAS, business growth creates new jobs, investments and increases the municipal tax base, and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, that the following procedures are established to create an incentive for maximizing use of local businesses and service providers through local preference.

#### **SECTION 1:**

#### (1) Definitions.

Local business: a business, vendor, or service provider which has a place of business located within the geographic boundaries of the City of Atlanta.

General services: support services performed by an independent contractor requiring specialized knowledge, expertise that includes but is not limited to janitorial services, pest control, laundry, catering, security, environmental property, equipment and building maintenance.

*Professional services:* means any services where the City of Atlanta is obtaining advice, instruction, or specialized work from an individual, firm or corporation specifically qualified in a particular area or discipline.

Goods: means but is not limited to supplies, equipment, materials and printed matter.

#### (2) Purpose.

The City of Atlanta's Bureau of Planning has determined that available commercial space is not being utilized to its fullest potential. The lack of business activity in these areas contribute to the economic decline and stagnation as well as community deterioration. Local business contracting and purchasing preferences will provide incentives for businesses to locate within the geographic boundaries of the City of Atlanta rather than in the metropolitan suburbs.

# (3) Preferences in Contracting and Purchasing of Goods, General Services and Professional Services.

Except where federal or state law prohibits, in any contracting or purchase of property, general services, or goods by means of competitive bidding or a request for proposal, a preference shall be given to business operations that have a place of business within the geographical boundaries of the City of Atlanta.

#### (4) Comparison of Qualifications

- (a) The aforementioned local business preferences in no way prohibits or repeals the right of the City of Atlanta to compare the qualifications or businesses, vendors or individuals or to compare the quality of materials proposed for purchase.
- (b) The aforementioned local business preferences in no way prohibits the right of the City of Atlanta from allowing other preferences permitted under law in addition to the herein established preferences.

## (5) Establishment of Preference Structure and Administration

The Department of Purchasing and Real Estate shall have the authority to establish a preference guideline and point system for businesses located within the geographic boundaries of the City of Atlanta.

- **SECTION 2:** That this ordinance shall become effective upon its adoption.
- **SECTION 3:** That all in conflict with this ordinance hereby be repealed, and for other purposes.

### Atlanta City Council

### Regular Session

00-O-0309 Est. & Implement. local pref. guidelines for businesses and service providers refer

YEAS: 9
NAYS: 3
ABSTENTIONS: 0
NOT VOTING: 1
EXCUSED: 2
ABSENT 1

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